

# House Study Bill 635 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION BILL)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act concerning instruction provided through the Iowa  
2 learning online initiative.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.42, subsection 7, Code 2016, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 7. The department may waive for one year the provisions  
4 of section 256.11, subsection 5, which require that specified  
5 subjects be offered and taught by professional staff of a  
6 school district or school, if the school district or school  
7 makes every reasonable and ~~good-faith~~ good-faith effort to  
8 employ a teacher licensed under chapter 272 for such a subject,  
9 and the school district or school proves to the satisfaction  
10 of the department that the school district or school is unable  
11 to employ such a teacher. The specified subject shall be  
12 provided by the initiative. The specified subject may instead  
13 be provided by the school district or school if all of the  
14 following conditions are met:  
15 a. The course content is provided through an online learning  
16 platform by a licensed teacher with online learning experience.  
17 b. The course content provided is aligned with school  
18 district or school standards.  
19 c. The course is not offered by the initiative pursuant to  
20 this section, or the course offered by the initiative lacks the  
21 capacity to accommodate additional students.  
22 d. The course is the sole course per semester that  
23 the school district or school is providing instead of the  
24 initiative pursuant to this subsection.

25 EXPLANATION

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 Current law permits the state department of education to  
29 waive a requirement that specified subjects available through  
30 the Iowa learning online initiative be offered and taught by  
31 professional staff of a school district or school if the school  
32 district or school makes every reasonable and good-faith effort  
33 to employ a teacher licensed for such a subject, and the school  
34 district or school proves to the satisfaction of the department  
35 that the school district or school is unable to employ such a

1 teacher. The specified subject can only be provided by the  
2 initiative.

3 This bill provides that if the department grants such a  
4 waiver, the specified subject may be provided by the district  
5 or school instead of the initiative if certain conditions  
6 specified in the bill are met.